

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

Grantee: Face to Face Health and Counseling Service, Inc.

Goal: To support, encourage, and assist young women to complete their pregnancy, have healthy birth outcomes, appropriately care for their newborns, and increase their stability and self-sufficiency as parents.

For the period: April – June 2015

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Provide ongoing supervision and guidance of grant staff; ensure reporting and evaluation activities are completed		Prenatal case managers, nursing staff, and nurse practitioners meet on a weekly basis to discuss continuity of care, centering pregnancy, and best practices for prenatal clients. Case consultations occur for clients as needed.	
Outreach	Prepare and distribute wallet-sized cards describing Connect program		Women who have positive pregnancy tests at Face to Face are given information about prenatal care and Connect prenatal case management program. Connect cards are also distributed in the community through our Health Education Department at outreach events. Connect case managers spend 2 hours a week at SafeZone (drop in center for homeless youth), providing pregnancy testing, outreach and education to young women, and connecting those needing prenatal care to services at Face to Face.	
Case Management Services	Provide case management support to prenatal clients; provide home visits for clients who have missed prenatal care visits	300	We have identified, through team case consultations, that many of our prenatal clients are requiring more case management visits. With highly complicated lives, and multiple stressors; including extreme poverty, homelessness, and lack of family or social support, a majority of our clients are in need of increased visits with their case manager throughout pregnancy and beyond.	342 Visits

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Financial Assistance	Provide assistance in completing applications for financial assistance;	120	In some ways the online application for insurance, through mnsure.org, has simplified the process in assisting clients in applying. This quarter, however, all case managers experienced situations with clients needing extensive follow up with both county offices and MNsure, and also multiple attempts in helping clients to create online accounts and apply.	132 Times
Mental Health	Provide pre-natal and post-partum depression screening; provide referrals to non-PA funded Mental Health providers as needed	70	As mentioned previously, we are noticing many more clients presenting with high mental health, and other, needs. We continue to provide regular depression screenings as part of our holistic prenatal care. Clients accepting mental health referrals are directed to our weekly walk-in clinic to get an intake appointment within one week.	107 Times
Nutrition	Provide information on proper nutrition; provide referrals and follow- up; provide food bags, baby formula, and food gift cards as needed	85	The majority of this report count comes from clients requesting emergency food bags, grocery gift cards, and formula. We are slightly under goal for the quarter as we were scheduled to begin a new Centering Pregnancy group (counted in this activity) and only one client was present for the first session.	72
Parenting Education	Provide two parenting events per year including education on parenting-related topics	100/ year	6 clients, 2 Fathers, 7 children attended our June Parent event at the Minnesota Children's Museum. The Connect case managers did a mass mailing of 200 flyers. Over 30 young people RSVP'd to attend the event. (See more in Comments section.)	6 Qtr/ 43 Year
Pregnancy Education	Provide pregnancy education within CenteringPregnancy® and prenatal education classes	125	We continue to have challenges in reaching our target goals for CenteringPregnancy groups. We are expecting to receive feedback from the Centering Healthcare Institute this month in response to the final report we recently submitted (a required report for maintaining certification as a Centering program). We hope the Institute can provide some guidance on different strategies to increase participation and group size. Based on	41 Visits

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			lower participation in Centering this year, we decreased our goal numbers for 2015-2016.	
Pregnancy Testing	Provide pregnancy testing 2 hours per week at SafeZone location	12	We have almost met our quarterly goal in providing pregnancy testing to clients at SafeZone. We continue to spend 2 hours per week providing pregnancy testing at SafeZone. Some weeks have been slower at SafeZone but visits are picking up in the last couple weeks.	10
Prenatal Medical Care	Provide prenatal care visits in Centering Pregnancy (120 per quarter) integrating medical care with pregnancy education and support; provide individual prenatal care visits (180 per quarter)	300	After providing OB Orientation groups for several months, we decided to discontinue providing initial OB educational appointments in this group setting. We have found that many women were unable to attend the weekly group and preferred to schedule individual appointments. Dropping the groups may account for being slightly under goal this quarter. The low participation in Centering groups also affect progress in this area – see comment above.	264 Visits
Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only	Staff provides clients only intake assessments, information on, referral to and assistance with securing necessary services	1	Two clients this quarter received Necessary Services intakes only and did not return to prenatal care at Face to Face.	2
Transportation	Provide taxi rides or bus fare for clients to get to appointments.	120	In order to extend our transportation budget, we have been offering clients a cab ride to their appointments and bus tokens to return home. At this point we are counting this as one instance of receiving transportation assistance if received on the same day, though we are essentially providing two services. We have spent out funds available for the quarter. Transportation is a high need for our clients and a barrier to services if we aren't able to help, either by providing assistance directly or linking clients to insurance programs that provide assistance with transportation for appointments.	49 Times

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	n/a
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	n/a
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	19
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	19
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	n/a
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	19

Comments:

Face to Face's Connect Department hosted our annual summer parenting event on Monday, June 1st, 2015. Fifteen people attended. Transportation was provided by Face to Face. In addition to exploration of the Children's Museum, families socialized and relaxed over a summertime picnic lunch. The Children's Museum was chosen for the event because it provides an opportunity for young families to experience together an environment that focuses on learning for children but is also fun. The experience also provided a time to relax, bond and enjoy each other. Parent education regarding the importance of early learning was introduced to the families through the museum's mission, included below:

Sparkling Children's Learning through Play

Minnesota Children's Museum is dedicated to providing children with a fun, hands-on and stimulating environment to explore and discover. The Museum helps to instill a life-long love of learning by nurturing the real-world skills children need to become engaged citizens in the future.

The Museum, in operation since 1981, embraces these core concepts:

- Early learning is the foundation for lifelong learning.*
- Families are our children's first teachers.*
- All children deserve a time and place to be children.*
- Diverse perspectives enrich children's lives.*
- Play is learning.*

Challenges: As mentioned in several of our activity areas, we are experiencing an increase in highly complicated “cases.” Beginning at intake, we are identifying the multiple needs that clients entering our prenatal program are presenting with. We are seeing this in all areas of social, emotional, and physical necessities. With our continued Positive Alternatives funding, we are able to provide intensive case management for our clients, when needed, and some limited assistance with basic needs that are lacking in many of their households. The amount of direct basic needs assistance that we can provide falls far below the need. With the continued support from our Connect case management team, our medical providers, and our mental health providers, we are working hard to support these young women and assist them in having the best outcomes for themselves and their babies.